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BY WM. A. NORRIS & CO.

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From the Petersburg Intelligencer.
IMMORALITY.

That the morals of the day are sadly out of joint, no one familiar with the history of the times will presume to deny. Every newspaper which you take up tells you in almost every column of defalcations, swindling and robberies, and all kind of villainies. And these acts of iniquity are not confined as they were once, to what may be termed the dregs of society—to men who, from want of education, moral culture, and good example, were naturally exposed to the temptations of vice—but are committed by men in the highest ranks of society; by men from whose education and whose previous mode of life, better things might be expected.

To what is this appalling increase of crime to be attributed? How are we to account for the fact, that from being a moral, law-loving people, we are fast becoming reckless, corrupt and depraved?

The reply which we shall give to our own question may surprise some and offend others but as we believe it to contain the true reason for this change in the morals of our people, we shall not hesitate to give it.

We believe that with the reign of Jacksonism in the United States, the reign of immorality commenced. The election of Gen. Jackson to the Presidency, was the commencement of a moral as well as a political revolution, and proved as was predicted a 'curse to the country,' in more respects than one. From that moment to the present time, vice in the United States has been rapidly on the increase. Nor is it surprising that such should have been the case, for during the administration of Jackson and his successor, if virtue and morality were not drawbacks to those who looked for executive favor, they certainly were not passports to it.

The attempt made by Gen. Jackson to force a woman of bad character, (Mrs. Eaton) into society in Washington, was but the shadowing forth of events that were to follow; and all the defalcations, and robberies which ensued during his administration, & that of his successor, were but the natural consequences of the opinion which soon became prevalent, that such conduct was not a bar to the good will of the President.

Surrounded by such men as Benton, Kendall, Blair, and others of the same kidney, Gen. Jackson and Martin Van Buren, as far as their example could go, gave a tone to morale in the United States which was any thing but healthy.

The official acts of Gen. J. were in accordance with his private example. His seizure of the Public Deposits, was but an act of Political robbery, (if we may use such an expression,) committed because he had the brute power to commit it. The submission by the people, or rather the encouragement given by them, to this lawless act—an act, which, in any other country would have brought the head of the perpetrator to the block—was, in effect, giving him unlimited power and authorizing him to go on in his career, unchecked by the Constitution of the Union, the Laws of the land, the rights of the citizens, or the rules of morality. The public treasure was subject to his control, was distributed by him throughout the State—corrupting the morals of the people—discouraging that regular and sober industry to which alone every country must look for its prosperity—stimulating speculation into gambling—begetting habits of extravagance and prodigality, which terminated in National Bankruptcy, with its inevitable concomitants, fraud and theft.

The public officers who were his officers, and accountable alone to him for their conduct, were not appointed because of their qualifications for the office they filled, but because of their fidelity to the President; and were kept in office, in many instances, for years after they had been detected in plundering the public treasure. What a blow was this to the morals of the country! The President of the United States to keep in offices of trust and emolument, men who had shown themselves deficient in common honesty—men who had actually committed theft! Was not this in effect a premium upon robbery and a pension for fraud!

Is it surprising that, when the highest officers of the Government—men to whom the whole country should look for example—show an utter indifference to principle and integrity, many of the people would follow their example, and come at last to regard as venial, acts which they once would have looked on with abhorrence? "When the wicked rule the people mourn." When vice and immorality is installed in the highest places in the land—when ignorance and dishonesty, vulgarity and fraud, are encouraged and rewarded, is it wonderful that virtue and morality should be at a low ebb?

When we hear men who ardently supported the administrations of Jackson and Van Buren, denounce in unmeasured terms, "defaultering" bank officers—when we hear them indignantly discourse of "rotten and corrupt corporations," we cannot help enquiring who were Boyd and Spencer, and Linn and Harris? By whom were they appointed to office, and by whom were they continued in office long after they were known to be rogues? Who corrupted the Banks? Who tempted them to overtrade? Who led them on, from one step of extravagance to another, and deserted them at the moment of their direst necessity? Let history answer, and its response will be—Andrew Jackson, aided and abetted by Martin Van Buren.

"I'm O. K." said the Printer's Devil to the Editor, 'other day. "O. K." replied the Editor, with a somewhat of look betwixt a laugh and a smile. "What, Out of Kesh—no; Out of Kiothes—no; Out of Kats—no; what the devil's the matter then?" "Only Out of Kopy, sir."

CREDIT SYSTEM vs. PLANTERS.

Extract from an Oration before the Agricultural Society of South-Carolina, by Geo. McDuffie.

If we consult the experience of other States, we shall find that all the advantages of fertile soils and genial climate have been blasted by the mistaken policy of which I am speaking; and that whole communities which industry and prudence would have caused to flourish almost beyond example, exhibit one general scene of pecuniary embarrassment, bankruptcy and ruin. The experience and observation of every planter will sustain me in the assertion, that we pay for credit, in the mode in which it is usually obtained in the purchase of property, from 10 to 50 per cent. interest. Every one who is accustomed to attend administrator's and other public sales, must have been struck by the extravagant prices men are tempted to give by a year's credit; and not less by the fact that such men are perpetually involved in pecuniary embarrassments, and that the very efforts they thus imprudently make to get forward in the world faster than their neighbors, keep them always in the rear. In fact, it may be truly affirmed as a general truth, that planters who are largely in debt, are, to that extent, the mere stewards of their creditors. Life is with them an anxious and slavish struggle in pursuit of an object which always eludes their grasp. But there is another form of credit, fortunately not so prevalent in South Carolina as in other States, of which planters are but too ready to avail themselves, which is equally at war with sound economy and sound currency. I allude, of course, to bank discounts. It has been so fashionable of late, to pronounce extravagant eulogies on what is misnamed the credit system, that it will probably be deemed quite heretical to say that credit, in any form, is a public and private evil. It is, nevertheless, my deliberate and well considered opinion, that one of the greatest nuisances that could afflict an agricultural community would be the establishment of agricultural banks, so located as to enable every planter to obtain credit to the amount of one third part of the value of his estate. The fatal experience of other States has conclusively proved that such establishments have been the inevitable cause of embarrassment and ruin. Owing to the periodical fluctuations inseparable from such a system, it has generally happened that a credit obtained by a planter, to the amount of one third of his estate, in a period of expansion, has required the whole estate to redeem it in a period of contraction. And we have been too impressively admonished that it is the very genius and instinct of those institutions, to grant credits in periods of expansion, and exact payments in periods of contraction.

I cannot, therefore, recommend a more important reform to our planting community, than to get out of debt with all possible despatch, if already involved in it, and resolve for the future never to be involved in it again. Such a resolution, generally adopted and firmly maintained, would do more to promote the independence and substantial prosperity of an agricultural state, than all the quackeries of legislation united. Imagine for one moment the great moral and political change which would be produced, if it could be truly announced at this moment, that every cultivator of the soil, within the wide limits of South Carolina, was entirely free from the shackles of debt. It would be a glorious day of jubilee. The fatal spell of pecuniary influence would be dissolved at once, the shackles of dependence would fall from the arms of the indebted, and every citizen would walk abroad in the majesty of genuine independence and freedom.

But let us consider the effect which this general & habitual freedom from debt, would produce upon the progress of individuals in accumulating wealth, and upon the aggregate prosperity of the whole class of planters. Taking experience for our guide, it can scarcely be doubted, that those who have uniformly kept out of debt, and have never purchased property till they had the money in hand to pay for it, have generally accumulated fortunes more rapidly and much more certainly than those who have pursued the opposite policy.—Every step they take is so much permanently gained. They are exposed to no backsets; they are effected by no vicissitudes in trade, and stand firm and unmoved amidst those great, and now frequent and periodical convulsions, by which those who are in debt are always shaken, and often overwhelmed.

Instances will no doubt occur to every one who hears me, of men who have habitually made smaller crops than their neighbors, and who have yet, in a series of years grown wealthy much faster, by this very simple rule, which I once heard laid down by a friend. He never made large cotton crops, and was regarded as a bad planter. And when asked how he got rich so much faster than his more energetic neighbors, he replied: "My neighbors begin at the wrong end of the year. They make their purchases at the beginning of it on a credit; I make mine at the end of it, and pay down the cash." And here I am reminded of a saying of the late John Randolph of Virginia; a man not more remarkable for his genius and eccentricity, than for the profound philosophical truths which sometimes escaped him like the responses of an inspired oracle. In the midst of one of his splendid rhapsodies in the Senate of the United States, he suddenly paused, and fixing his eye upon the presiding officer, exclaimed: "Mr. President, I have discovered the philosopher's stone. It consist in these four plain monosyllables: 'PAY AS YOU GO.' Now, I will venture to say, that this is a much nearer approach than alchemy will ever make to the great object of its visionary researches. And in recommending this maxim to the cotton planters of the State, I have still kept in view, not only the individual interest of each planter, separately considered, but the common

interest of the whole community of planters. For this reform, like the others I have suggested, independently of the direct benefit it will confer on each individual planter, it will benefit the whole, as a class, by checking over-production. One great cause of the incessant struggle to make large cotton crops, to the neglect of every other interest, is the reckless habit of contracting debts, which I am deprecating. Negroes are purchased upon credit, and the planter is thus furnished both with the means and motives for unduly and disproportionately enlarging his cotton crop. As cotton is the only crop that will command money, as money is the most pressing want of a man in debt, every thing is directed to that object; so much so, that it is the standing apology for neglecting to pursue a sounder system of economy. The saying has, indeed, become proverbial among planters, "If I were not in debt, I would not strive to make such large cotton crops, but would devote myself to raising my supplies, and making permanent engagements."

Let me, therefore, advise, admonish and beseech all our planters, as they regard their own peace of mind, their own true interest, the dignity and honor of their vocation, and the substantial welfare of the State, to avoid the entangling embarrassments of debt. Let them regard those who may offer them credit with no friendly eye, but as enemies in disguise, who seek to lead them into temptation. If they have contracted the habit of anticipating their income, even for a single year, let them reform even that. Yes, reform it altogether! Then will their prosperity be placed on immovable foundations. Then will they stand unshaken and untrifled amidst those periodical storms and convulsions which are the inseparable concomitants of a false and artificial system of fluctuating credit and currency.

From the Dial for April.

LABOR—The world dishonors its workmen, staves its prophets, crucifies its saviors, but bows down its neck before wealth, however won, and shouts till the welkin rings again Long Live Violence and Fraud.

The world has always been partial to its oppressors. Many men fancy themselves an ornament to the world, whose presence in it is a disgrace and a burthen to the ground they stand on. The man who does nothing for the race, but sits at his ease and fairs daintily, because wealth has fallen into his hands, is a burthen to the world. He may be a polished gentleman, a scholar, the master of elegant accomplishments, but so long as he has taken no pains to work for a man, with his head or hands, what claim has he to respect or subsistence? The rough handed woman, who, with a salt fish, & a basket of vegetables provides substantial food for a dozen working men, and washes their apparel, and makes them comfortable & happy, is a blessing to the land, though she has no education, while this top with his culture and wealth, is a curse. She does her duty, so far as she sees it, and so deserves the thanks of man. But every oyster or berry that a top has eaten performs its duty better than he. 'It was made to support human nature, and it has done so,' while he is but a consumer of food & clothing. That public opinion tolerates such men, is no small marvel.

The productive classes of the world are those who bless it by their work or their thought. He who invents a machine does no less service than he who toils all day with his hands. Thus the inventors of the plough the loom, and the ship, were deservedly placed among those who society was to honor. But they, also, who reach men moral and religious truth, who give them dominion over the world; instruct them to think; to live together in peace, to love one another, and pass good lives, enlightened by wisdom, charmed by goodness, and enchanted by religion—they who build up a loftier population, making man more manly, are the greatest benefactors of the world. They speak to the deepest wants of the soul, and give men the water of life, and the true bread from Heaven. They are loaded with contentment in their life, and come to a violent end. But their influence passes like morning from land to land, and village and city grow glad in their light. That is a poor economy, common as it is, which overlooks these men. It is a vulgar mind that would rather Paul had continued a tent maker, and Jesus a carpenter.

Now the remedy for the hard service that is laid upon the human race, consists partly in lessening the number of unproductive classes, and increasing the workers and thinkers, as well as giving up the work of Ostentation, Folly and Sin. It has been asserted on high authority, that if all women and men capable of work, would toil diligently but two hours out of the twenty-four, the work of the world would be done, and all would be as comfortably fed and clothed, as well educated and housed and provided for in general as they now are, even if they all went to sleep the other 22 hours of the day and night. If this were done, we should hear nothing of the sickness of sedentary and rich men. Exercise for the sake of health would be heard of no more. One class would not be crushed by hard work, and another oppressed by indolence, and condemned in order to resist the just vengeance nature takes on them, to consume nauseous drugs, & resort to artificial and

hateful methods to preserve a life that is not worth the keeping, because it is useless and ignominious. Now men may work at least three or four times this necessary amount each day, and yet find their labor a past-time, a dignity and a blessing, and find likewise abundant time for study, for social intercourse, and recreation. Then if a man's calling were to think and write, he would not injure the world by excessive devotion to his favorite pursuit, for the general burthen would still be slight.

RESOURCES OF THE WEST—The Cincinnati Gazette, in alluding to the question of a war with Great Britain, has some novel but interesting speculations under this head. The editor remarks, that "when a country goes to war, it must depend upon itself. If it has not within itself, all the necessities and comforts of life, as well as the munitions of war, it cannot carry on a successful war.—It is well known that the United States raise provisions enough and can increase the amount infinitely.—But where do these provisions come from? New England is occupied with manufacturers, and the South with growing cotton. The latter depends on foreign commerce, and in time of war, is, except for home manufactures, useless. Let us take first wheat. The comparison among the states, in respect to this essential article is curious enough." He proceeds:

There are fifteen States of the American Union, which do not raise wheat enough for their own consumption. A part of these raise a large portion for their own wants. But there are others (Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, S. Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Arkansas,) which are almost wholly dependent on the other states for their bread.

But what is more curious, the entire surplus required by these 15 states is furnished by 3, Ohio, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.—These three states furnish wheat enough, at the American rule of consumption, for nearly three million of people.—To illustrate this contrast, it appears that Ohio, alone, raises more wheat than Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Georgia, Maryland and Missouri, all put together. Such a fact shows, strong as demonstration, the great natural resources of the State.

The next great articles of provision are pork and beef. These are products found in all quarters of the Union. But far the largest portion of hogs are found in the west; and of cattle more than the average.

The result of these facts, that the Ohio Valley is rapidly developing its great natural capacity, as a grain growing and a self depending country.

In time of war, this country is every thing. The armies of Napoleon, could they have been landed on the shores of America, would have been comparatively useless in the plains of the West.—They would have found no great fortresses to seize upon, and they would have been harassed and driven to destruction by a people every where present but no where to be conquered.

GREAT BRITAIN & TEXAS.

Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the Republic of Texas and Great Britain.

The Republic of Texas and her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally desirous of affording every facility and encouragement to their respective citizens, and subjects engaged in commercial intercourse with each other, have nominated as their plenipotentiary to conclude a treaty of peace for this purpose, that is to say,

The Republic of Texas, Gen Jas. Hamilton, &c.

And her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, The Right Hon. Henry John Viscount Palmerston, Baron Temple, a Peer of Ireland, a member of her Britannic Majesty's most Hon. Privy Council, a member of Parliament, knight grand cross of the most honorable order of the Bath, and her Britannic Majesty's principle Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon, and concluded the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. There shall be reciprocal liberty of commerce and navigation between and among the citizens of the Republic of Texas and the subjects of her Britannic Majesty; the citizens or subjects of the two countries respectively shall not pay in the ports, harbors, roads, cities, towns, or places whatsoever, in either State, any other or higher duties, taxes or imposts, under whatsoever name designated or included, than those which are there paid by the citizens or subjects of the most favored nations; and the citizens or subjects, respectively, of the two high contracting parties, shall enjoy the same rights, privileges, liberties, favors,

immunities and exemptions, in matters of commerce and navigation, that are granted, or may hereafter be granted in either country, to the citizens or subjects of the most favored nation. No duty of customs or other imposts shall be charged upon any goods, the produce of the country, upon importation by sea or by land, from such country to the other, higher than the duty or imposts charged upon the goods of the same kind, the produce of, or imported from any other country. And the Republic of Texas, and her majesty, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, do hereby bind and engage themselves not to grant any favor, privilege, or immunity in matters of commerce and navigation to the citizens or subjects of any other State, which shall not be also and at the same time extended to the citizens or subjects of the other high contracting party, gratuitously, if the concession in favor of that other State shall have been gratuitous, or on giving as nearly as possible the same compensation, or equivalent, in case the concession shall have been conditional.

ART. 2. No duties of tonnage, harbour, light-house, pilotage, quarantine, or other similar or corresponding duties, of whatever nature, or under whatever denomination, shall be imposed in either country upon vessels, or upon any articles the growth, produce, or manufacture of the other, in respect of voyages between the two countries if laden, or in respect of any voyage, if in ballast, which shall not be equally imposed in like cases on national vessels; and in neither country shall any duty, charge, restriction or prohibition be imposed upon, nor any drawback, bounty or allowance be withheld from any goods imported from or exported to any country in the vessels of the one country, which shall not be equally imposed upon or withheld from such goods, when so imported or exported in the vessels of the other country.

ART. 3. The citizens and subjects of each country shall enjoy full liberty to go to the ports and harbors of the other country, where other foreigners are allowed to enter, to unlade their merchandise therein, to hire and occupy houses, and peaceably to conduct their respective trades and professions.

The ships of war of both countries, respectively shall have the liberty to enter freely, and touch at all such ports in each country, into which the ships of war of any other nation are permitted to enter—subject, however, to the regulations, laws, and statutes, of the respective countries.

ART. 4. The stipulations of the present treaty shall not be considered as applying to the navigation & carrying trade between one port and another, situated in the dominions of one contracting party, by the vessels of the other, as far as regards passengers, commodities, and articles of commerce. Such navigation and transport being reserved by each contracting party to national vessels.

ART. 5. The high contracting parties reserve for future negotiation, at such time as they may mutually agree upon the conditions upon which the trade and navigation shall be regulated between the Republic of Texas and the Britannic Majesty's colonial possessions in Europe, Asia, Africa and America.

ART. 6. Whereas, in the present state of Texan shipping, the Republic of Texas would not enjoy the full benefit of the reciprocity intended by this treaty, if no vessel were to be admitted into British ports as a Texan vessel, unless it had been built within the territory of Texas, it is, therefore agreed, that for the space of eight years, to commence from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, any vessel, wheresoever built, being bona fide the property of, and wholly owned by one or more citizens of the Republic of Texas, and whereof the master and three-fourths of the mariners at least are naturalized citizens of the Republic, or persons domiciled in that Republic, by act of the government as lawful citizens of the Texan republic, to be certified according to the laws of that country, shall be considered as Texan vessels. Her Majesty, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland reserving to herself the right, at the end of said term of eight years, to claim that the provisions of the British Navigation Act, relative to the nationality of foreign vessels, shall be strictly applied to Texan vessels in British ports.

ART. 7. The consuls and vice-consuls of each country shall, within the territory of the other, enjoy all the rights, privileges and immunities which are accorded to such functionaries by the law of Nations; and it is provided that in the ports of each country, respectively, the authorities shall give all due legal assistance and protection for the apprehension, safe-keeping, and delivering of all deserters, from the ships of war, and trading vessels of either country, and all the powers and privileges granted in respect to the matters to which the stipulations of this article relate, by either of the contracting parties to any other nation, shall be granted by such contracting party to the consuls, vice-consuls ships of war and trading vessels of the other.

ART. 8. If any ships of war, or mer-